

Teaching Award, and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Nava also invented a treatment for Barrett's Esophagus, a condition that can lead to cancer of the esophagus.

Madam Speaker, I recognize Dr. Hector Nava. From teaching undergraduate and graduate courses at local universities on surgical oncology and gastroenterology, to working and partnering with other WNY hospitals, and participating in local service events like the Mexican Musical Performance, Dr. Nava has made his mark on our community.

CELEBRATING POLK COUNTY'S 175TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 175th anniversary of Polk County, Arkansas. This county, set right on the border of Arkansas and Oklahoma, is named after former President James Polk and is currently home to more than 20,000 people.

Almost half of Polk County lies in the Ouachita National Forest, and as a forester by trade, I've seen how important this forest is to our state's ecosystem and wildlife habitats. I'm grateful to the land managers that live in Polk County and steward our resources well.

In addition to the beautiful landscapes and fertile valleys, Polk County is home to many incredible people that I am privileged to know. I'm honored to recognize Polk County and its history today, and I hope this legacy is passed down for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING BANNER ELEMEN- TARY SCHOOL FOR RECEIVING THE NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS AWARD

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Banner Elementary School, in Dunlap, Illinois, as a recipient of the 2019 National Blue Ribbon Schools Award. This recognition is a testament to the hard work both the faculty and students have put into making their school one of the safest and healthiest learning environments in the country.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program was started by the United States Department of Education to serve as a way to highlight schools across the country that meet a high standard for educational excellence. The Department of Education chooses the winning schools each year based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

At Banner Elementary School, the level of hard work and dedication the staff, administration, and students all exhibit is unparalleled. Again, Congratulations to Banner Elementary School on receiving the National Blue Ribbon Schools Award. I am proud to represent this shining example of educational excellence.

MARY (MO) LUKENS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously recognize and honor Mary (Mo) Lukens, a great Coloradan and wife, mother and grandmother.

Mo was a lifelong resident of Colorado and a proud resident of Golden. For over 20 years she dedicated her time to the Golden community serving many different organizations including the Golden Rotary Club, Applewood, Denver, Golden and West Jefferson County Chambers of Commerce and others. Additionally, she ran a successful business, Mo's Family Portraits, which helped capture many wonderful memories for families in Jefferson County and across Colorado.

Mo was also very involved with the Cancer Action Network and served as the 7th Congressional District Ambassador. She was a tireless advocate for cancer research and funding. For the last decade, she chaired and co-chaired the Relay for Life for the American Cancer Society to honor those battling cancer, including her own struggle as well as that of her mother and grandmother.

I was privileged to know Mo for many years, and her vibrance and good work in our community will never be forgotten. Her passion for her community, her good nature and sense of humor was a true delight. On behalf of the people of Jefferson County and Colorado, I honor Mary (Mo) Lukens for a life well-lived and extend my deepest appreciation for her contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING JOHN J. DAY, JR. AND HIS NOMINATION FOR THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and achievements of John J. Day, Jr., in honor of his nomination and confirmation of France's highest distinction of military and civil merits, the French Legion of Honor.

In October of 1942, during the height of World War II, John answered his nation's call and joined the United States Army as a member of the 90th Infantry Division, a regiment that later earned the title of "Tough Hombres." Deployed to Europe two years later, the Tough Hombres arrived on English soil on Easter Sunday, 1944. Soon after their arrival, John, along with his regiment, boarded a ship for Normandy. At the young age of 21, John courageously defended his country two days after D-Day in the Battle of the Seves River. Taken off the front line on July 22, 1944, John completed his assignment at a Postal Unit in Avon, France. John was finally discharged from the Army in November 1945, six months after World War II ended.

John returned to civilian life and to his work with the Pennsylvania Central Railroad system in New York. Following his retirement, John and his late wife, Mary Ann, enjoyed traveling

across the country, visiting children and grandchildren. John currently resides in Galena, Ohio, where he is an active member of the Westerville Chapter of the VFW.

A decorated veteran, John has been awarded numerous awards such as the World War II Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, and the Combat Infantry Badge, just to name a few. The French Legion of Honor adds to the extensive list of awards and recognitions John received throughout his distinguished career, though it does not scratch the surface of the number of reasons we owe a debt of gratitude to John for his service to our country.

Consul General of France will officially present John with his medal on October 8 in Westerville, Ohio. I am confident that John's impact will be an enduring one, and that this ceremony will be cherished by his family and friends. I thank John for his service, and I am proud to join in recognizing John J. Day, Jr., as he receives this distinguished and well-deserved honor.

DICK SCHWEERS

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Mr. ROONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard "Dick" Schweers of Estero. Dick is a staple of the Estero Community and has served on the Board of Commissioners of the Estero Fire Rescue Department since 1997 and is the current Chairman. In 1997, the Board of Commissioners was facing many challenges. It was down to only two members and needed a third member to form a quorum to conduct business. In addition, Estero Fire Rescue was deeply in debt and struggling to remain solvent. While it took some convincing at the time by then Governor Lawton Chiles, Dick eventually agreed to be appointed as a fire commissioner to restructure the department. With Dick's hard work, leadership, and guidance, Estero Fire Rescue was completely turned around.

Today, Estero Fire Rescue has four buildings, state of the art equipment, and a large crew of firefighters and paramedics. It is now one of the premier fire districts in our area. After 22 years with the Estero Fire Rescue Department, volunteering to help raise thousands of dollars for the Harry Chapin Food Bank, serving on the Estero Council of Community Leaders and the Estero Historical Society, and being an active member in the Notre Dame Club of Southwest Florida, Dick is retiring.

I thank Dick for his decades of service to our community and our citizens, and hope he enjoys a well-earned retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF HENRY S.
BARBOSA

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 4, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Henry S. Barbosa for his outstanding